

# Decoupling the Building Latent and Sensible Loads Using 100% Outside Air Systems

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## Outline

- What are 100% OA systems?
- What is the benefit of decoupling the space sensible and latent loads?
- What parallel sensible cooling equipment is available when dry ventilation air is delivered to the space?
- What are the operating benefits of these decoupled systems, including op. cost?
- A few pitfalls to avoid when applying these systems?

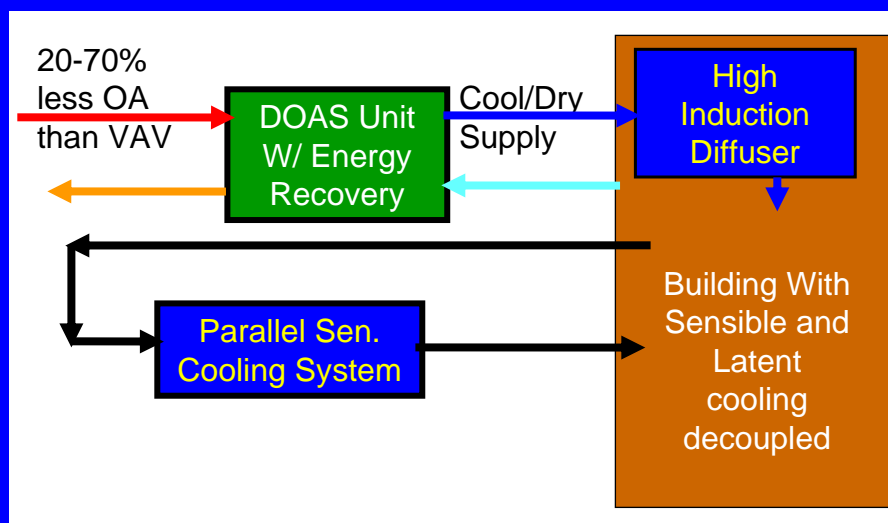
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## 100% OA Systems

1. 100% OA, but at a low flow rate, approximately the rate required by ASHRAE Std. 62.1-2007: i.e. DOAS. Also needed: Parallel sensible cooling only system to meet the thermal loads.
2. 100% OA, at the flow rate required to meet the entire space sensible load— frequently up to 5 times the flow needed for ventilation alone.  
Will not be discussed here—but could be during the question time if interested.

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## DOAS Systems



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## Why decouple sensible and latent space loads with DOAS?

Tight humidity control minimizes the potential for IAQ problems and related sick-building illnesses\*, and improves thermal comfort and productivity.

\*Which are caused largely by *biological contaminants* breeding in damp ducts, ceiling tiles, insulation, behind vapor barriers and carpet.

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## Potential Health/productivity Related Economic benefits of DOAS

The significance of DOAS is illustrated by estimates that US companies lose as much as **\$48 Billion** annually to cover medical expenses and **\$160 Billion** annually in lost productivity as a result of sick-building illnesses.

Source: ASHRAE Literature.

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## How Much is \$208 Billion/yr.--- in light of the ~ \$13,800 Billion/yr 2007 USA GDP (value of goods and services)

- Medical & productivity cost (loss) to US business as % of GDP:  
 $(208/13,800)*100 = 1.5\%$
- National debt annual increase as a % of GDP:  $(500/13,800)*100 = 3.6\%$
- Katrina Gov. appropriations as % of GDP:  $(150/13,800)*100 = 1.1\%$

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## Parallel Terminal Systems



Radiant Cooling Panels



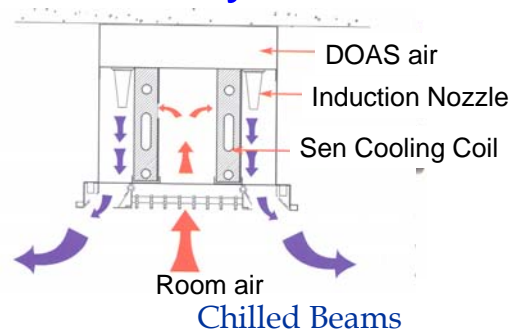
Fan Coil Units



Air Handling Units



Unitary ACs



## VAV problems solved with DOAS plus Radiant or Chilled Beam

- Poor air distribution.
- Poor humidity control.
- Poor acoustical properties.
- Poor use of plenum and mechanical shaft space.
- Serious control problems, particularly with tracking return fan systems.
- Poor energy transport medium, air.
- Poor resistance to the threat of biological and chemical terrorism, and
- Poor and unpredictable ventilation performance.

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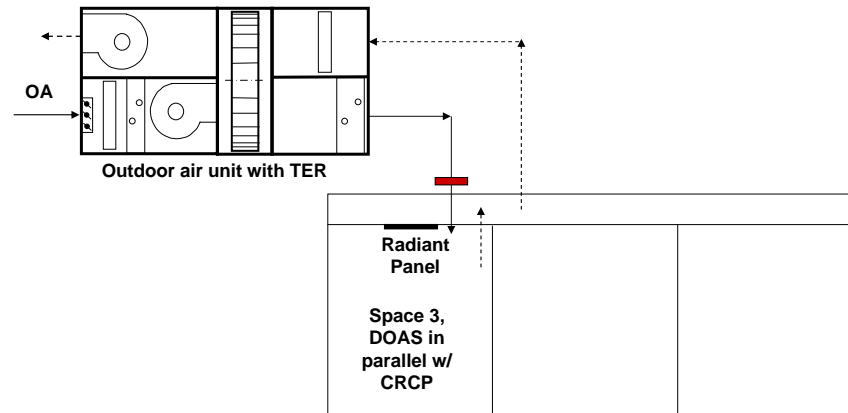
## Additional benefits of DOAS

Beside solving problems that have gone unsolved for over 30 years with conventional VAV systems, note the following benefits:

- Greater than 50% reduction in mechanical system operating cost compared to VAV.
- Equal or lower first cost.
- Simpler controls.
- Generates up to 80% of points needed for basic LEED certification.

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## DOAS with Parallel Radiant

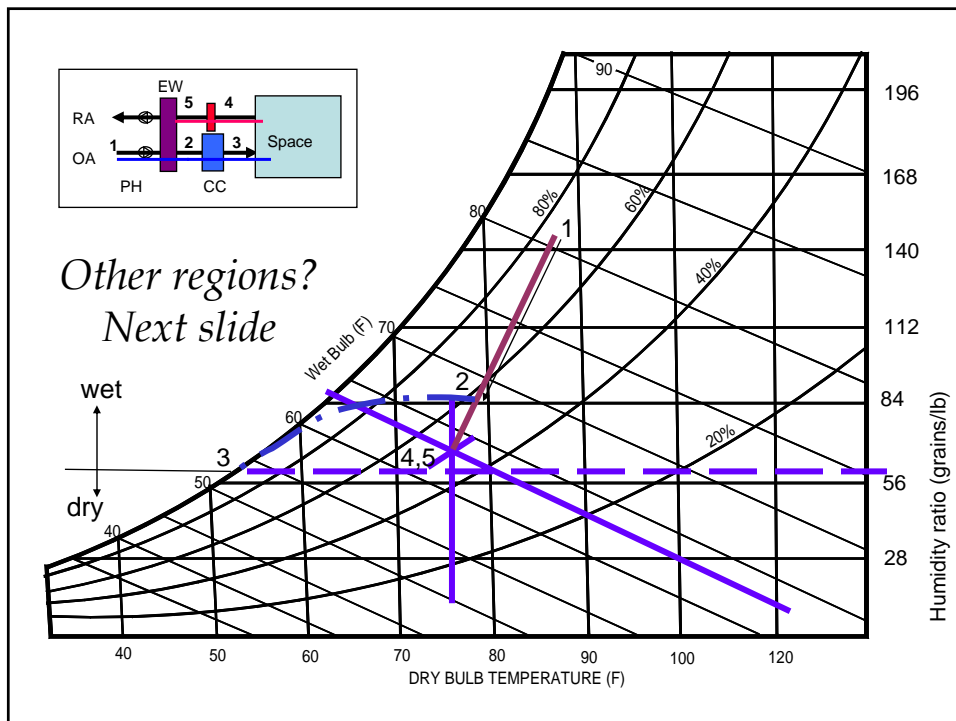


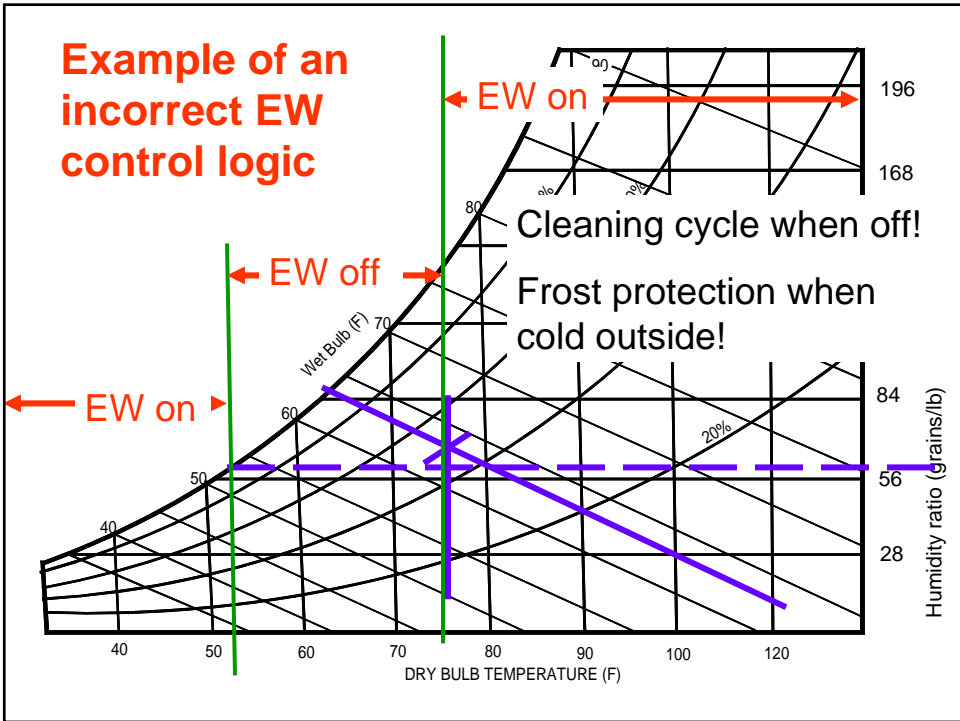
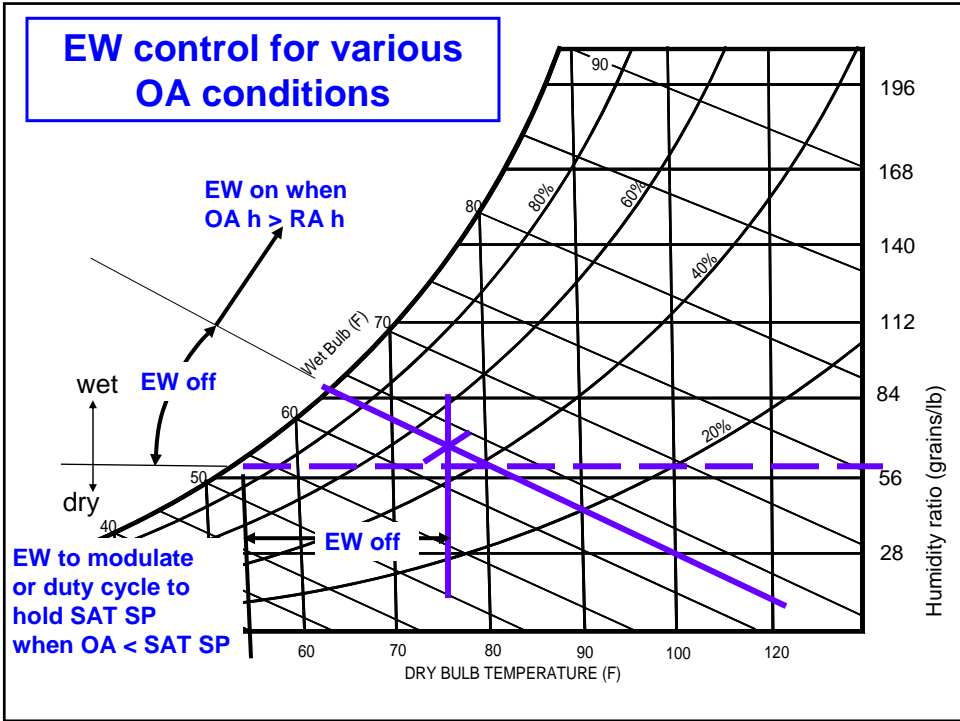
## Sample DOAS pitfalls?

- Wrong supply air temperature.
- Wrong controls for the enthalpy wheel.
- Wrong controls for the heating coil.
- Wrong controls for the cooling coil.
- Wrong location for the heating coil.

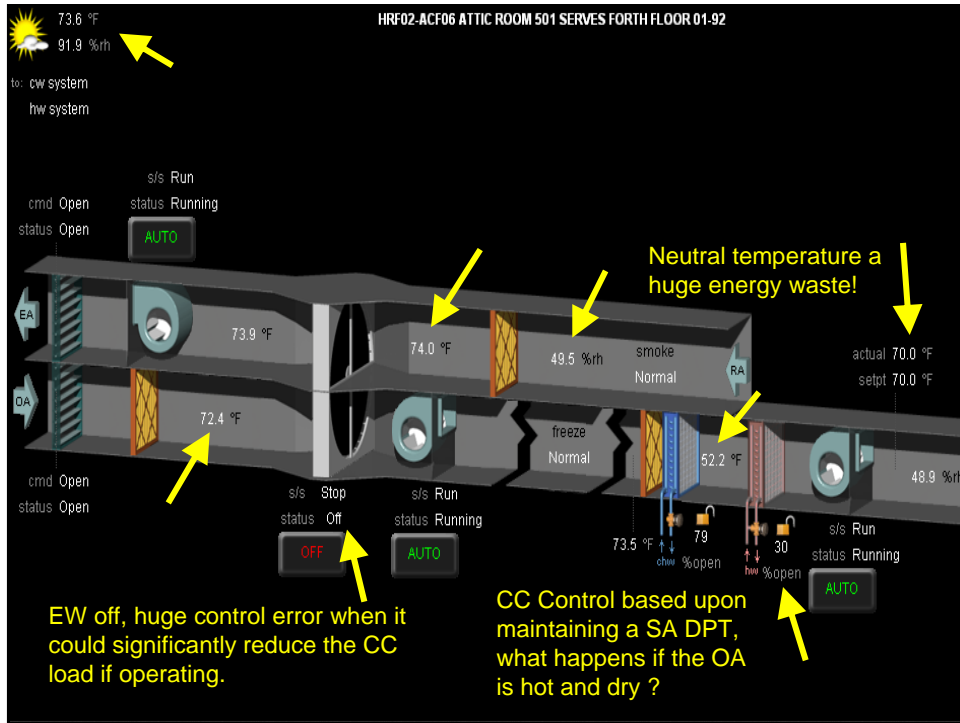
# Quick Review of DOAS system psychrometrics

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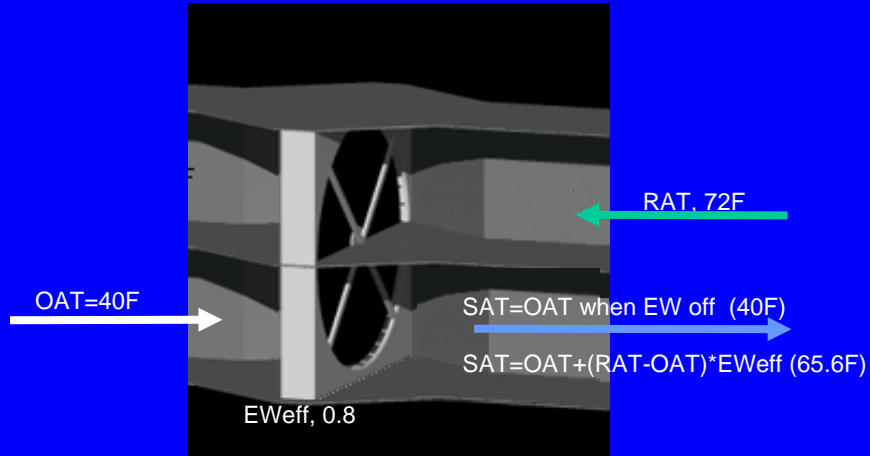




**Failing to minimize the use of a chiller when it is cool outside — can be a pitfall for DOAS systems.**

- EW binary control—a duty cycle saves chiller operation.
- EW using a VFD, maximizes the free cooling of a DOAS.

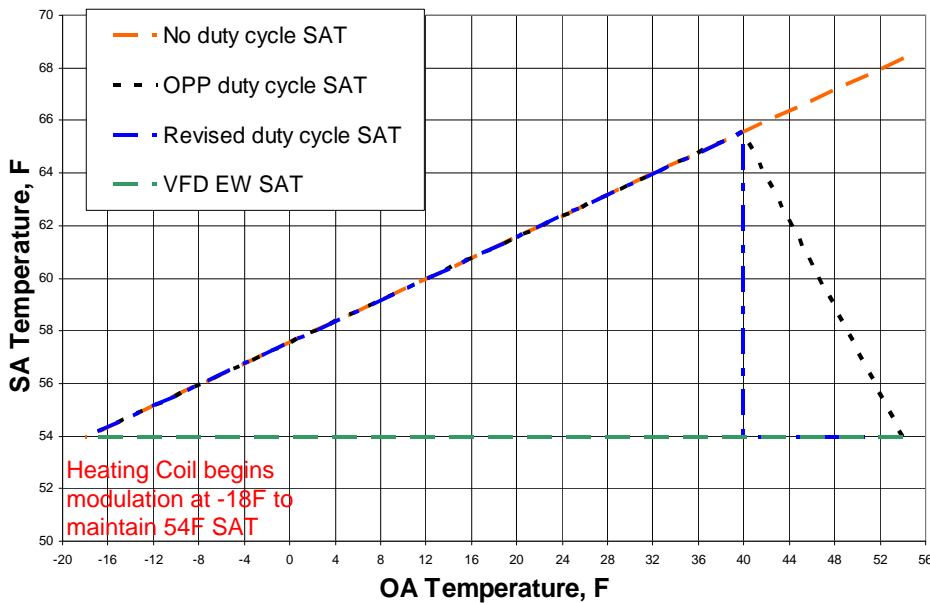
## EW Duty cycle defined



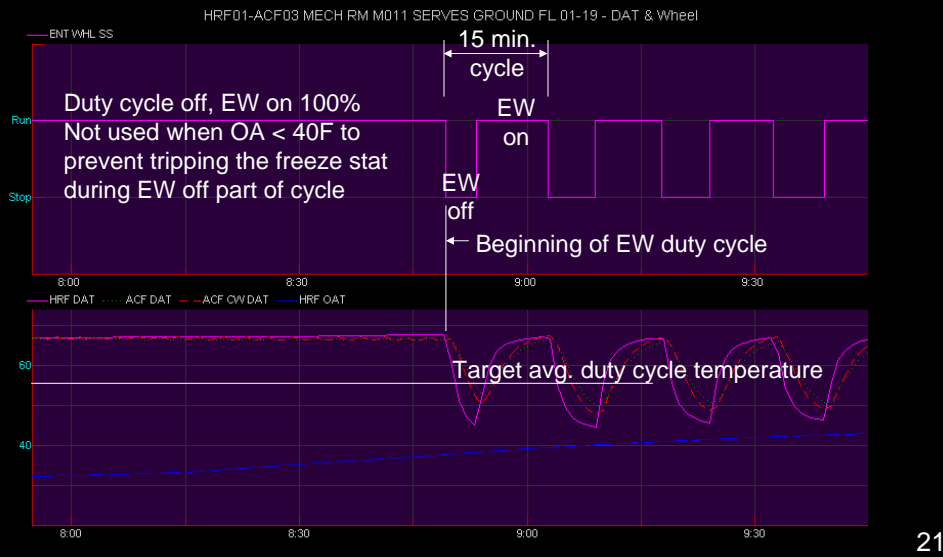
By adjusting the EW ON time (54.7% or 8.2 min) in 1 period (15 min) can get an avg. temperature equal to the desired SAT (54F). Duty cycle changes to 100% ON at 40F OAT to avoid tripping freeze stats. NOTE: HC must be off since when EW off, DAT < DATSP and the CC must be off when the EW on!

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### EW operation when OA below 54F



## Sample of the duty cycle operation as the OA DBT rises through 40F



## Conclusions

- 100% OA DOAS systems discussed.
- IAQ cost benefits of decoupling discussed.
- A few parallel systems introduced.
- Operational benefits explored.
- Humans are still capable of falling into pits. A few pitfalls discussed.
- I am convinced DOAS is the future since it solves VAV problems at lower first and operating costs, while providing improved IEQ and safety!
- More information is available on the DOAS web site noted on the first page.